

work. I am very proud to have worked with each of them. I hope they take from their summer a sense of pride in what they've been able to accomplish and an increased interest in public service and our democratic system and process.●

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. DANIEL C. WALL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. Daniel C. Wall, who will leave his elected position as Commander of The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Michigan, in August. For the last year, Mr. Wall has led the Michigan Detachment of the S.A.L. with wisdom and with grace, and has used his time in this position to aid the Veterans of the United States Armed Forces in an exemplary fashion.

Mr. Wall has served in the Sons of The American Legion for many years, and holds a Life Membership card from Robert A. Demars Sons of The American Legion Squadron 67 of Lincoln Park, Michigan. During his time as a member, he has held many offices within the S.A.L., including all offices at the Squadron level; District Commander, Adjutant, and others; State Commander, Adjutant, and Zone 1 Commander.

Mr. Wall was elected to serve as the State of Michigan Commander in 1999. During his time in the position, Mr. Wall focused much of his attention upon the education of his fellow members, so that they might know more about the purpose, programs, awards, officer duties and the benefits of their organization. He believed that this would not only help to recruit new members, but would also give current members a better appreciation for the many beneficial things that the S.A.L. does on a daily basis.

As Commander, Mr. Wall has also presided over the many efforts of the S.A.L. in the State of Michigan, including assisting local posts in their activities, initiating programs for Veterans, volunteering at V.A. homes and hospitals, and fundraising. In 1999, the S.A.L. raised over \$514,000 for V.A. homes and hospitals, and over \$181,000 for the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. In addition, Mr. Wall has served as a member of national S.A.L. committees.

I applaud Mr. Daniel C. Wall on the job he has done as State of Michigan Commander of the Sons of The American Legion. He has dedicated much of his life to improving the lives of the Veterans of our great Nation, and for this he is to be commended. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I thank Mr. Wall for his dedication, and wish him continued success in the future.●

A TRIBUTE TO "TALK OF VERMONT'S" JEFF KAUFMAN

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I would like to mark the end of an era in Vermont. Jeff Kaufman, host of Vermont's award-winning program, "The Talk of Vermont," will hang up his headphones at the end of this week. After 5 years on the air in Middlebury, Jeff and his family are leaving the Green Mountain State for the arguably less green pastures of Southern California.

A fixture on Vermont morning radio and a catalyst for thoughtful and provocative discussion of the key issues facing our state and nation, Jeff has not only brought wit and wisdom to the airwaves, but he has consistently managed to recruit big-name guests—Lily Tomlin, Ted Williams, Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist—to our small-market corner of the world, while never neglecting lesser-known local voices. Above all else, Jeff does his homework—he is equally adept at understanding the intricacies of missile defense as he is the physics of baseball.

While living in Middlebury, Jeff did not just entertain his listeners on the radio, but he became a valued member of the community, whether it was raising money for flood victims or serving as a member of the Citizens of Middlebury.

I am certain that I speak for my colleagues in the Vermont Congressional delegation—each of us has had the pleasure of Jeff's unique brand of inquisition—when I say that he will be a tough act to follow. He has provided an extraordinary service to Vermonter who have benefitted from his professionalism, his insights and his curiosity. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jeff for a job well done and to wish him and his family well in every future endeavor.

Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD a profile of Jeff from The Burlington Free Press, dated July 23, 2000.

The material follows:

[From the Burlington Free Press, July 23, 2000]

RADIO'S INVENTIVE "TALK OF VERMONT" IS ABOUT TO GROW SILENT
(By Chris Bohjalian)

It is an overcast weekday morning smack in the center of summer. It is hot and sticky, and there's absolutely nothing in the air that might be mistaken for a breeze.

I am leaning against the side of a gazebo in Middlebury during the town's annual celebration on the green, waiting for Jeff Kaufman, host of the WFAD radio show "The Talk of Vermont," to arrive. The show is about to broadcast live from the commons.

Abruptly, a slim guy with hair the color of sand just after the surf has receded coasts across the grass on a bicycle with a copy of one of my books under his arm. He says something I can't hear to the engineer, who is battling with miles of wires and the sort of microphone that I thought existed only in

radio and television museums, and the engineer laughs. Then he turns to me and introduces himself.

This is Kaufman, and no more than 90 seconds later—still without breaking a sweat, despite the heat and his last-minute arrival—he has me seated in a folding metal chair, and we are on the air. It is clear within minutes that he not only has read my most recent novel, he has read the ones that preceded it. All of them. He has read the column I write for this newspaper. He has read a surprising number of the articles I have written for different magazines.

You have no idea how rare this is.

I have done easily a hundred-plus radio and television interviews in my life, and the vast majority of the time the very first question I am asked is this: "So, tell us about your new book." The reason? There is a not a soul in the studio other than me, including the person with whom I am speaking, who has the slightest idea what the book is about.

In truth, why should they? How could they? Think of the number of guests who pass through a radio or television talk show every week. It's huge, and it takes time to read a novel.

Almost every weekday morning for the better part of a decade, Kaufman has done his homework on his guests and then offered the state some of the very best radio in Vermont. Sometimes his show has been broadcast on five stations, and sometimes it has been on only one, but it has never affected the first-rate quality of the program.

It was three years ago that I met Kaufman on the commons in Middlebury, and I have come to discover that day in, day out he corralled terrific guests. Lily Tomlin one day, Ted Williams the next. One morning he might be moderating a live debate between U.S. Senate hopefuls Jan Backus and Ed Flanagan, and the next he might be chatting with Middlebury biographer, poet and novelist Jay Parini about—basketball.

On any given day, he was as likely to have an acrobat from the Big Apple Circus performing—literally—on the stool in his studio as he was to have an expert from Washington, D.C., on the proposed "Star Wars" missile defense system.

Now, alas, we are about to begin Kaufman's last week. He and his family are leaving for California in early August, and Kaufman will no longer be a fixture on Vermont radio. There is no question in my mind that this is a real loss—and not simply because Kaufman is a first-rate interviewer and radio personality. He was also a part of the community. He used his show to find food and clothes for those families that had to leave their homes after the summer flood of 1998, and to raise money to help build a new Lincoln Library.

Sometimes I wonder if Kaufman had the ratings he deserved, but regardless of whether he had 12 or 1,200 people tuned in, he never gave his audience a small-market effort.

Happy trails, my friend. We'll miss you.●

MS. LORIE FOOCHE NAMED ACHIEVER OF THE MONTH

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, in October of 1993, the State of Michigan Family Independence Agency commemorated the first anniversary of its landmark welfare reform initiative, "To Strengthen Michigan Families," by naming its first Achiever of the Month. In each month since, the award has been given to an individual who